

## The Fist in the Wilderness

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## Book Notices

*The Utah Photographs of George Edward Anderson.* By Rell G. Francis. (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1979. xii, 155 pp., illus., index, \$23.50.)

George Edward Anderson (1860-1928), a devout Mormon, photographed the people of his native Utah—miners, farmers, railroaders at work, and pioneers at rest. Rell Francis, a winner of many photographic awards himself, traveled the same roads and walked into the same houses to research and trace Anderson's work of a generation earlier. From his research he was able to provide an historical context and an introductory essay on Anderson's life and work which enhances the beautiful collection of 116 photographs which evoke a world that is now gone.

*The Fist in the Wilderness.* By David Lavender. (Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 1979. 490 pp., illus., maps, bibliography, index. \$8.95 paper.)

This is a reissue of Lavender's classic which appeared in 1964 as a textbook of the American fur trade. It is centered around Ramsey Crooks, the field manager of John Jacob Astor's giant fur-trading empire, who later became president of the reorganized American Fur Company. But more than the story of one fur trader, it tells the story of the rise and decline of British influence in the Northwest and illustrates how the fur trade was run from the top down by astute business wizards. It is required reading for anyone who proposes to know something about the American fur trade.

*111 Days to Zion.* By Hal Knight and Stanley B. Kimball. (Salt Lake City: Desert News, 1978. 262 pp., illus., index, \$3.95 paper.)

This is a concise guide complete with maps of the Mormon exodus from Winter Quarters (on the Missouri River) to the Great Salt Lake valley. Unfortunately, the Iowa trek is not included. The chapters, which include material drawn from diaries, correspond to the sixteen weeks the company spent on the trail. The maps outline the pioneer campsites in relation to the modern highways, cities, and geographical features. The text is also sprinkled with lively biographical sketches and brief histories of the important geographical points along the trail. This guide, designed to fit in the glove compartment of a car, provides a much-needed traveler's guide for those tracing the Mormon Trail in air-conditioned covered wagons.

*American Forts: Architectural Form and Function.* By Willard B. Robinson. (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1977. Published for the Amon Carter Museum of Western Art, Fort Worth. xiii, 229 pp., illus., \$15.00.)

This lavishly illustrated book traces the history of American forts from their ancient and medieval origins to the twentieth century. It stresses the debt to European precedent and expertise—especially that of the French. The text is

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